



# K A N S A S

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

To: All State Employees

From: Kathleen Sebelius, Governor

Date: June 15, 2006

Subject: State Employee Pay Increases

State employees should be proud of the work they do on behalf of the people of Kansas – I know I am. You and your colleagues work hard on behalf of your fellow Kansans, and too often have not gotten the proper recognition or rewards for this service.

Since taking office in 2003, I have included a pay increase for all state employees in my budget. This year the passage of the budget marks the fourth straight year state employees will receive a pay increase.

Earlier this year I signed Executive Directive 06-369, which provides classified state employees a 1.5 percent cost of living adjustment (COLA), as well as a 2.5 percent step increase beginning with October 6 paychecks. Unclassified employees will receive a 2.0 percent COLA. These increases are part of our on-going effort to ensure state employees are fairly compensated for their commitment in making Kansas an even better place to live, work and raise a family.

Keeping our communities safe and secure has been a top priority for my administration and I'm pleased the Legislature also agreed with my recommendation to enhance entry-level wages for corrections officers, increasing the starting salary for Corrections Officer 1A from Pay Grade 17, Step 4 to Pay Grade 17, Step 6. Current uniformed corrections officers will receive an additional 2.5 percent step increase, as well as the 2.0 percent COLA and 2.5 percent step increase for all classified state employees.

In addition to the salary increases you will be receiving in the coming pay period, I want to reward you for your continued hard work by offering July 3<sup>rd</sup> as a state holiday. This will allow you more time to spend with family and friends, to reflect on the blessings of freedom we too often take for granted, and if possible, to take some time to thank neighbors and co-workers who put themselves in harm's way to protect those freedoms.

I pledge to continue to work closely with my cabinet members and with the Legislature to make sure you receive the recognition and respect you deserve. On behalf of the people of Kansas, thank you for the work you do to make our state safer, healthier and more prosperous.